"YOU MUST CHECK IT OUT!" J.J. ABRAMS

ELEPHANTMEN!™

APPROVED BY THE "COMICRAFT" AUTHORITY

2260 BOOK SIX

"THE LEAST, THE LOST & THE LAST"

STARKINGS · MEDELLIN · HARDING · ROSHELL · COOK

Image Comics presents:

ELEPHANTMEN

RICHARD STARKINGS • AXEL MEDELLIN

22 61

THE LEAST, THE LOST & THE LAST

ABAGAIL JILL HARDING BOO COOK • JOHN ROSHELL

APPROVED BY THE COMICRAFT AUTHORITY

RICHARD STARKINGS
President & First Tiger
JOHN 'JG' ROSHELL
Secret Weapon
BOO COOK
Cover Art

image

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Digital edition.
ISBN: 978-1-5343-0188-7

WESTWOOD, CA • 2259

prologue:

ELEPHANTMEN
OLD SOLDIERS

By Richard Starkings & Dougie Braithwaite

I CAN SEE YOU THERE, YOU KNOW.

OH... EXCUSE ME... I'M SORRY.

YOU WERE IN THE ARMY TOO, RIGHT?

YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE *ELEPHANTMEN* SOLDIERS!

I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I, EH? WELL, OF *COURSE* I AM... I MEAN, *LOOK* AT YOU!

THEY CALL ME PARRY. *JOHN PARRY.* WHAT'S YOUR NAME, EH?

EBONY.

WELL, EBONY, YOU SHOULDN'T OUGHT TO SMOKE THEM, IF YOU ASK ME. CIGARETTES WILL KILL YOU STONE DEAD.

MIND YOU... WE'RE *SURROUNDED* BY DEATH HERE, AREN'T WE...?

AND IT'S NOT CIGARETTES WHAT DID THE KILLING.

WE FOUGHT YOUR LOT, DIDN'T WE?

I WAS IN FRANCE DURING THE WAR. STRETCHER BEARER. SURVIVED THAT TERRIBLE PLAGUE WHAT SWEPT ACROSS EUROPE AND VOLUNTEERED.

SAW SOME ***TERRIBLE*** THINGS.

MIND YOU, I BET ***YOU*** DID TOO.

I'M NOT JUDGING...

YES... *TERRIBLE* THINGS.

THERE'S NOTHING MORE *BARBARIC* THAN WAR, IS THERE...? HMM?

BUT YOU KNOW WHAT, EBONY, MY FRIEND?

THOSE SOLDIERS WHAT FELL ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

THE ONES WHOSE BODIES WERE FLOWN HOME.

WELL, THEY WERE THE *LUCKY* ONES WEREN'T THEY?

THEY WERE TREATED AS HEROES.

BUT THE ONES WHO *SURVIVED*.

THE ONES WHAT LOST *LIMBS*...

THE ONES WHAT LOST THEIR *MINDS*...

HOW WERE *THEY* TREATED?

I'LL TELL YOU, SHALL I...? AS AN *EMBARRASSMENT.*

WE HAD TO FIGHT FOR *MEDICAL* BENEFITS.

PROPER LIFE INSURANCE... HOUSING. SPECTACLES!

ALL THOSE THINGS.

LIKE WE DIDN'T COUNT ANY MORE.

NO ONE... SHOULD BE TREATED LIKE THAT.

NOT *ME*...

NOT *YOU*....

AND ESPECIALLY NOT HER.

ELIZABETH PARRY

2198-2259

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CHINATOWN

LOS ANGELES • 2260

El·e·phant·men [el-*uh*-*fuh*nt-men] noun:
1. Transgenics; human/animal hybrids, genetically engineered by the **MAPPO Corporation** for military deployment in the **Afro-Sino War** (2239-2243). Rehabilitated by the **United Nations**, these creatures were gradually inculcated into human society.
2. Derogatory term for such.

ELEPHANTMEN

MASTER EBONY. PLEASE, COME THIS WAY. THE DOCTOR AWAITS YOU.

EBONY HIDE. WELCOME TO MY SHAMBHALA CLINIC.

I AM TO BE YOUR GUIDE ON THIS MORTAL PLANE THIS NIGHT.

BUT BEWARE THAT I AM NOT A DOCTOR IN THE TRADITIONAL SENSE.

I HAVE BEEN CALLED MANY STRANGE NAMES IN MY TIME HERE. OF LATE I PREFER TO BE KNOWN AS:

DOCTOR ALIZARINE

PRAY TELL, WHAT IS IT THAT DISTURBS YOU? WHAT PENETRATES THE THICK SKIN THAT BINDS YOU IN, HM?

DOCTOR ALIZARINE created by ABIGAIL JILL HARDING

STRANGE MEDICINE

A NAME, MY FRIEND, REVEALS THE *ESSENCE* OF A THING...

DO YOU FEAR THAT YOUR *SOUL* IS AS *BLACK* AS *YOUR* NAME SUGGESTS?

SCARY MONSTER

SUPER CREEP

BY RICHARD STARKINGS & ABIGAIL JILL HARDING

PERHAPS WE CAN SHED A LITTLE *LIGHT* ON THAT?

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WISH ME TO KNOW?

I, uh... I HAVE *SEEN* THINGS...

DONE THINGS...

BAD THINGS

THINGS I CAN'T SEEM TO FORGET.

OF COURSE.

YOU'RE *HAUNTED*.

YOU WERE A *SOLDIER*.

BUT NO ONE GUIDED YOU ON THE *WARRIOR'S* PATH.

THAT IS WHY YOU HAVE FOUND YOUR WAY TO ME.

NOW PLEASE, HAVE SOME *TEA*.

YANG HAS PREPARED A VERY PARTICULAR BLEND OF HERBS AND SPICES ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.

YES. DRINK. *DRINK DEEP* AND LET US CONSIDER *WHO* AND *WHAT* YOU ARE.

MAPPO, THE CORPORATION THAT CREATED THE ELEPHANTMEN.

MAPPO, THE EVIL LATTER DAY OF THE LAW WHEN GREED, ANGER AND STUPIDITY CONSUME THE MINDS AND HEARTS OF HUMANITY.

THEY TOOK A NOBLE *ANIMAL* AND MADE IT ONE WITH THE *SPIRIT* AND *BEARING* OF A MAN...

A MAN WHOSE MONSTROUS DEEDS MADE HIM THINK HIMSELF A MONSTER.

LET ME ASK YOU... DO OUR EVIL DEEDS MAKE MONSTERS OF US, TODAY...?

AND, IF SO...

...IS THIS

MONSTER...

JUST... A MAN?

AND IS THIS MAN...

...JUST

ANOTHER...

MONSTER?

TUSK?!

TUSK?
TUSK?
TUSK?

TUSK... COME BACK!

PLEASE...

WAIT!

THIS IS HOW WE DESCEND, EBONY WHEN WE FOLLOW THE BEAST...

THE NATURAL LAW OF THIS WORLD IS NOT FOR AND AGAINST...

YET STILL WE DESCEND...

STILL WE ARE SET ONE AGAINST ANOTHER...

...FOR SOME NOBLE CALISE...

OR MORE OFTEN, AN IGNOBLE ONE...

TUSK? IS THAT REALLY YOU?

WE CANNOT REMAIN SILENT. MY FRIEND...

A GREAT INJUSTICE WAS DONE...

WHEN MR. FIXX'S GENETICISTS SOUGHT TO HARDWIRE CHAOS AND EVIL INTO YOUR VERY BEING.

HOW COULD YOU EXPERIENCE YOUR OWN GENTLENESS AND INNER HARMONY IN THE WORLD THEY SHAPED AROUND YOU?

THEY GIVE YOU NO WAY TO LAUGH; TO EXPRESS THAT YOU NEEDED LOVE. NO WAY TO UNDERSTAND YOUR TRUE MIND AND FIND YOUR INNATE WISDOM AND BUDDHA NATURE...

THEY PUNISHED AND CONDEMNED YOU...

SO THAT YOU WOULD GO INTO THE WORLD TO FEND AND CONDEMN IT...

NOT AS A

WARRIOR...

BUT AS AN AGENT

OF ANGER

AND ANIMALITY

JUST A WAR TOY

A TRUE WARRIOR'S STRENGTH COMES FROM WITHIN, EONY...

A TRUE WARRIOR STANDS CALM IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY...

LOOK INSIDE.

DISCARD THE TRANSIENT AND REVEAL THE TRUE.

RECONCEIVE YOURSELF!

YOUR LIFE MUST BECOME AN ENDLESS MEDITATION ON THE TRUE ENTITY AND TRUE PURITY OF YOUR ETERNAL SPIRIT.

NO MATTER THE FEAR IN YOUR HEART...

THE DESPAIR IN YOUR SOUL...

NO MATTER YOUR ORIGIN...
NO MATTER YOUR PARENTAGE...

EVOLUTION IS NOT WITHOUT DIRECTION.

BEYOND THE SIX SENSES, BEYOND THE MIND KNOWLEDGE OF THE SEVENTH CONSCIOUSNESS.

BEYOND THE CHOICES OF MAN AND WOMAN.

BEYOND THE EIGHTH, ALAYA CONSCIOUSNESS. THE STOREHOUSE THAT TREASURES BOTH RIGHT AND WRONG.

UNSTAINED BY KARMA, THE AMALA CONSCIOUSNESS PRESERVES OUR TRUE, ETERNAL SELF.

POISON CAN ALWAYS TURN INTO MEDICINE.

THE GENUINE HEART OF SADNESS COMES FROM FEELING THAT YOUR NONEXISTENT HEART IS FULL.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CUT YOURSELF OPEN, SPILL YOUR HEART'S BLOOD, GIVE YOUR HEART TO OTHERS?

FOR THE WARRIOR, THIS EXPERIENCE OF A SAD AND TENDER HEART GIVES BIRTH TO FEARLESSNESS.

REAL FEARLESSNESS IS THE PRODUCT OF TENDERNESS.

ARE YOU WILLING TO OPEN UP, WITHOUT RESISTANCE OR SHYNESS, AND EMBRACE THE WORLD?

ARE YOU WILLING TO TAKE THE RISK OF SHARING YOUR HEART WITH OTHERS?

THEN...

...AND ONLY THEN...

CAN YOU TRULY FACE FEAR!

FACE FEAR, AND SURPASS IT!

THE ALL-SEEING EYE OF AMALA SEES EVERYTHING AND REMEMBERS NOTHING.

IT IS CONSTANT LIGHT WHERE THERE IS ETERNAL DARKNESS.

IT IS A SWORD OF TRUTH IN A SCABBARD OF LIES.

IT IS EVERYTHING.

AND NOTHING.

STAINED AND STAINLESS, IMPURE AND PURE, DEFILED AND UNDEFILED.

EBONY. A SWORD IS USELESS IN THE HANDS OF A COWARD.

WHEN YOU ARE UNAFRAID, THEN YOU CAN BE TRULY COURAGEOUS, WITHOUT ANGER OR ARROGANCE.

THEN YOU CAN LET IT GO, AND DECIDE...

ARE YOU A SOLDIER...

OR ARE YOU A WARRIOR?

HAVE YOU BEEN SENT ON YOUR PATH?

OR HAVE YOU CHOSEN YOUR PATH?

CAN YOU LET GO OF THE DOUBTS THAT PLAGUE YOU IN THIS WORLD?

LIVE INTO YOURSELF AND OVERCOME YOUR OBEDIANCE TO THE FORCES THAT CREATED YOU.

CHOOSE WHO YOU ARE...

...AND WHO YOU ARE NOT!

THE MIGHTY SWORD OF THE LOTUS SUTRA MUST BE WIELDED BY ONE COURAGEOUS IN FAITH.

WHEN YOU CHOOSE TO BE FEARLESS, THEN YOU CAN BE A TRUE WARRIOR.

WHEN GENTLENESS IS YOUR NATURAL STATE OF BEING...

THEN THERE CAN BE HARMONY...

STILLNESS...

...MAGIC...

ONLY REMEMBER THIS;
YOU CANNOT OWN THE POWER
AND MAGIC OF THE WORLD

IT DOES NOT BELONG
TO ANYONE

EBONY?

BUT IT IS ALWAYS
AVAILABLE TO
THOSE WHO ARE
FEARLESS

WELL, FANCY THAT, IT *IS* YOU, ISN'T IT? *EBONY HIDE*, RIGHT?
WE MET IN THE *VETERANS' CEMETERY*... DIDN'T WE, MUST BE NIGH ON A *YEAR* AGO NOW...
IT'S JOHN! *JOHN PARRY.*

YES, I REMEMBER--

EBONY!

Eh?

SAVANNAH! WHERE DID YOU SPRING FROM?

ARE YOU OUT ALONE...? AT NIGHT?

I'M NOT ALONE! I'M WITH GRAMPA, SILLY!

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN AGES AND AGES! I MISSED YOU SO MUCH!

WELL DON'T THAT JUST TAKE THE BISCUIT?

YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER? WELL, I NEVER...

YOU MUST BE THE ONE MY DAUGHTER-IN-LAW TOLD SAVANNAH NOT TO GO NEAR, I'LL BET!

YEP!

ALL THIS TIME AND I NEVER KNEW!

I RECKON THIS CALLS FOR A NICE CUPPA TEA, Eh, SAVVY?

TEA! AND FLAKE!

I'LL PASS ON THAT, JOHN. I SEEM TO HAVE LOST MY TASTE FOR TEA TODAY.

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ELEPHANTMEN

El·e·phant·men [el-*uh*-*fuh*nt-men] noun:
1. Transgenics; human/animal hybrids, genetically engineered by the **MAPPO Corporation** for military deployment in the **Afro-Sino War** (2239-2243). Rehabilitated by the **United Nations**, these creatures were gradually inculcated into human society.
2. Derogatory term for such.

The Least, The Lost & The Last

YES! YOU ARE LISTENING TO THE HERMAN STRUMM SHOW, NOW STREAMING AROUND THE PLANET AROUND THE CLOCK ON DOGSTAR RADIO -- WOOF!

SO, RABBI, WHO DO WE HAVE IN THE STUDIO TODAY?

FREEDOM.

WE HAVE ELIJAH DELANEY COMING TO VISIT US TODAY...

THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S RIGHT, OUR VERY OWN ELEPHANTMAN -- UH -- CROCODILEMAN -- HELL, RABBI, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO CALL HIM? "DELANEY?!" WHAT DOES HE THINK HE IS -- IRISH?

I DON'T KNOW, HERMAN -- WHY DON'T YOU TRY CALLING HIM ELIJAH? OR "SIR?"

THAT'S ALL MIKI HAS EVER WANTED.

Y'KNOW, YOU'RE RIGHT, HE'S, WHAT, 550 POUNDS, ALL MUSCLE, HE'S GOT A MOUTHFUL OF RAZOR SHARP TEETH... "SIR" SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT...

AND I DO NOT WANT TO OFFEND THE ELEPHANTMEN, AT THE LAST COUNT THERE WERE, WHAT, FIFTEEN THOUSAND OF THESE GUYS?

THE FREEDOM TO FLY AS HIGH IN THE SKY AS HER CAB WILL TAKE HER...

Part One:

ICHINEN

HELL, I KNOW MY PLACE.

I SERIOUSLY DOUBT THAT, HERMAN...

YOU'RE LISTENING TO SATELLITE RADIO.

Richard Starkings Words • Axel Medellin Art

LOS ANGELES • 2260

OKAY, GUYS AND GALS... I'VE NEVER HAD AN ELEPHANTMAN ON THE SHOW BEFORE, BUT, HELL, AS I KEPT TELLING MY EX-WIFE, THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING...

...AND OH-MY-GOD, IS THIS GUY **BIG.**

NOW, THAT'S SOMETHING I **KNOW** YOU NEVER HEARD FROM YOUR WIFE!

THE FREEDOM TO FLY ALL NIGHT IF SHE WANTS TO...

ELIJAH, I WANT TO WELCOME YOU TO THE HERMAN STRUMM SHOW, IT IS AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE YOU HERE, SIR...

YEAH, I HEARD THAT GAG...

WELL, COME ON, YOU TELL ME... WHAT **DO** I CALL YOU... DO YOU GUYS GET ALL **PISSY** IF WE USE THE **'E'** WORD?

ELEPHANTMEN?

BECAUSE WE ALL LOOK THE SAME, RIGHT?

OH, HERE WE GO, RABBI. NEXT THING HE'S GONNA ASK ME IF ALL JEWS LOOK ALIKE --

WHICH, OF COURSE, WE DO!

BUT TELL ME, WHAT IS WITH ALL THE **BIBLICAL** NAMES...? ELIJAH, EBENEZER, HIERONYMOUS, OBADIAH, JEDIDIAH...

WERE THOSE **MAPPO** GUYS RELIGIOUS FREAKS OR WHAT?

THEY WERE **FREAKS** ALL RIGHT, HERMAN...

THE FREEDOM TO FLY **WHEREVER** SHE WANTS.

WITH WHOEVER SHE WANTS.

BUT I BET YOU GET LETTERS FROM NUTTERS, RIGHT? RELIGIOUS NUTS.

I LOOKED YOU UP ON THE SLATE -- NOT YOU PERSONALLY, BUT CROCODILES IN GENERAL -- AND, IN THE BIBLE THEY CALL YOU **LEVIATHAN**, RIGHT?

I GUESS THE EGYPTIANS AND THE JEWS LOOKED UPON CROCS AS GODS --

WHAT? YOU'RE LOOKING AT ME LIKE YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, MAN...

I GUESS IF YOU **READ** IT SOMEWHERE, IT MUST BE **TRUE**, RIGHT?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING AT, ELI, BUT I ALSO READ THAT CROCODILES AND **HIPPOS** ARE LIKE, NATURAL ENEMIES.

THE FREEDOM TO LOVE ANYONE SHE CHOOSES.

WHAT'S THE NAME OF THAT TOUGH GUY WHO WORKS FOR THE INFORMATION AGENCY--? **HIP FLASK**, RIGHT?

EVEN IF THAT HAPPENS TO BE AN ELEPHANTMAN.

SO, DO YOU GET INTO FIGHTS ALL THE TIME WITH THE **HIPPOMEN?**

AM I RIGHT IN THINKING THAT'S HOW YOU LOST YOUR **TAIL?**

PREPARE TO STOP

EVEN IF THAT HAPPENS TO BE THE TOUGH GUY WHO WORKS FOR THE INFORMATION AGENCY.

THE ONE MIKI FOUND AT THE SIDE OF THE L.A RIVER TWO YEARS AGO.

THE ONE WHO BIT OFF THE TAIL OF THE CROC.*

HIP FLASK.

HE WAS SLUMPED UP AGAINST A WALL WITH HIS TOES SPLAYED, HIS NOSE ALL BLOODY AND HIS FOREHEAD COLD TO HER TOUCH.

HOW COULD SHE **NOT** FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM?

HE LOOKED SO VULNERABLE. SO HUMAN.*

AND HE WAS CLUTCHING THAT WOODEN DOLL SHE BROUGHT TO HIM LATER AT THE HOSPITAL.*

SHE'D KEPT IT SO SHE HAD AN EXCUSE TO VISIT AT HIS BEDSIDE.

VOTED #1 BEST KISSER BY YOUR BOYFRIEND!

WHICH SHE DID, ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION.

*Issue #2

*Issue #3

*Issue #4

AND WHEN SHE NEEDED A HELPING HAND.

HIP WAS THERE FOR HER.*

HOW COULD SHE **NOT** FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM?

HER MOTHER TOLD HER SHE WAS CHASING A MONSTER...

*Issue #18

AND THERE WAS A TIME WHEN HE **BEHAVED** LIKE A MONSTER.*

AFTER SOME ROGUE **MAPPO** ROBOT REACTIVATED **NANOTECHNOLOGY** ATTACHED TO HIP'S **BRAINSTEM** THAT MADE HIM BELIEVE HE WAS STILL AT **WAR** WITH THE HUMAN RACE.

*Issue #24

EVEN THEN SHE COULDN'T KEEP AWAY FROM HIM FOR LONG.*

*Issue #30

FREEDOM.

IT ALWAYS COMES WITH A PRICE.

AT LEAST HER LIFE HAS BEEN ANYTHING BUT BORING LATELY.*

*Issues #65-69

AND SHE'S NOT PREPARED FOR IT TO STOP.

YOU'RE LISTENING TO DOGSTAR... UPGRADE AND LISTEN AD-FREE...

PREPARE TO STOP

DESERT BREEZES

THERE'S A WARM WIND BLOWING...

AND A NEW SELECTION OF CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES COMING TO EVERY **DESERT BREEZES** THIS SEASON.

PREPARE TO STOP

DESERT BREEZES

CHASE THE GRAY AWAY WITH NEW DESIGNS BY SAH...

UNNATURAL! UNLAWFUL! PERVERSE! NEVER FORGET THAT SAHARA LAYS DOWN WITH A BEAST!

ZZT

ZZT

ZZT

ZZT

PREPARE TO STOP

ZT

NEVER FORGET WHAT ELEPHANTMEN REALLY ARE!

DON'T BE
FOOLED!

THEY
WALK
LIKE US!

THEY
TALK
LIKE US!

BUT THEY
DO NOT
THINK
LIKE US!

THEY ARE
NOT MEN!

THEY ARE
ANIMAL

DESIGNED TO KILL!

DO NOT TOLERATE THESE MONSTERS

KEEP YOUR CHILDREN AWAY FROM THEM AT ALL TIMES!

WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY ARE THINKING!

HOO BOY.

THEY BRING TERROR

THEY BRING RUIN

THESE CREATURES CANNOT BE TOLERATED ANY MORE!

OUR CITY NEEDS NEW LEADERSHIP

OUR CITY NEEDS DOUGLAS SHORE

THERE IS *NOTHING* TO BE GAINED BY KEEPING *ELEPHANTMEN* ON THE STREETS OF LOS ANGELES.

DOUGLAS SHORE WILL BRING AN END TO THE *FREEDOMS* GRANTED TO THEM BY THE BLEEDING HEARTS.

I'M PERRY FALBERTSON, *THE CHILDREN OF GOD* ENDORSE *DOUGLAS SHORE* FOR MAYOR.

DRIVE CAREFULLY

BE SURE!

VOTE SHORE!

YEP.

THERE ARE MONSTERS IN THE CITY ALL RIGHT.

LOOK AT THIS POOR BASTARD.

BITCH.

WHAT?

ALL THE HYENA TRANSGENICS WERE *FEMALES*.

THAT DOESN'T MAKE HER A BITCH!

WAIT. DOES IT? I GUESS THEY ARE *DOGS*, KINDA...

WHATEVER, FLASK. SHE'S NOT LOOKING GOOD EITHER WAY.

Y'KNOW, FARRELL, HYENAS ARE PACK ANIMALS, THEY ***STICK TOGETHER***.

EXCELLENT SENSE OF SMELL...

DIDN'T PROMETHEAN BLOW OUT THEIR ***BRAINS?***

I GUESS MAYBE THE ***KILL SWITCH*** WAS DODGY ON THIS ONE?

AND IF ***ONE*** SURVIVED, CHANCES ARE THERE ARE ***OTHERS...***

THEY MIGHT JUST SNIFF EACH OTHER OUT.

THERE.

MAN, I'VE NO LOVE FOR THESE CREATURES, BUT IF WE LEAVE THEM HERE, THEY'RE NOT GONNA ***LIVE*** LONG.

SAINT FRANCIS? THIS IS AGENT FLASK. ID: IA6227

WE NEED A HAZMAT WAGON ON FIFTH AND BROADWAY.

YOU HAVE A *SAINT* ON SPEED DIAL? COOL.

BUT HOW DID THESE ROUGHNECKS SURVIVE?

I DUNNO. *ICHINEN?*

ITCHY- *WHAT?!*

ICHINEN -- IT'S A JAPANESE WORD MEANING SINGLE-MINDED DETERMINATION. *FOCUS!*

SO THEY WERE A BUNCH OF BUTTHEADS WHO REFUSE TO JUST LIE DOWN AND DIE.

CUTE.

WHEN DID *YOU* START SPEAKING *JAPANESE?*

I HAVE AN *AFFINITY* FOR LANGUAGES, FARRELL. MAPPO HAD US SPEAKING CHINESE, FRENCH, GERMAN...

I CAN SAY *"SURRENDER OR DIE!"* IN *EIGHT* DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.

AND MY *GIRLFRIEND* IS JAPANESE, Y'KNOW.

TIKTOK! TINY! TOOL! HOW ARE ALL MY BOYS?

念
一イ チネン
いちねん
!CHINEN!

WELL, LOOK WHAT THE CAT BROUGHT IN...

BIP

SLURP!

I'VE BEEN CALLING YOU IN ALL AFTERNOON.

YOU ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO TURN YOUR COMMLINK OFF!

GIMME YOUR KEYS! YOU ARE GROUNDED.

I LIKE YOUR T-SHIRT, MIKI.

GROUNDED? FOR TAKING THE *AFTERNOON* OFF?

ONE: *EXCUSE* ME FOR TRYING TO RUN A FREAKIN' BUSINESS!

TWO: YOUR *DAD*... THE ONE THAT PAYS ALL YOUR CITY *TAXES* AND CAB *FEES*...?

HE STOPPED BY TO HAVE ME *PULL YOUR LICENSE*...

MY *DAD*--?

YES, *HIROMI*...

WE NEED TO TALK.

SAINT FRANCIS HOSPITAL

SAINT FRANCIS

SEEMS LIKE YOU AND THE REST OF THE TEEGEES SPEND A LOT OF TIME HERE.

I'M JUST GLAD THE AGENCY PROVIDES HEALTH INSURANCE.

NOT IF *SHORE* IS ELECTED, DUDE.

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE TERM *"SECOND CLASS CITIZEN"*?

SAVING THESE WRETCHES ISN'T GOING TO DO MUCH FOR YOUR RESUMÉ EITHER.

WHAT HAVE WE *HERE*, MISTER FLASK?

UH, HYENAS...

LIVE ONES.

THEY MIGHT BE ALIVE *NOW* BUT I CAN'T SAY MUCH FOR THEIR *PROSPECTS*...

WE'LL DO OUR *BEST*, OF COURSE.

EXCUSE ME...? DO I, UH... ARE YOU--?

YEAH, WHAT... ER, WHO EXACTLY *ARE* YOU?

THE *DIRECTOR* OF SAINT FRANCIS. RECENTLY APPOINTED. IN FACT, MY COMPANY HAS RECENTLY *ACQUIRED* THIS FACILITY.

WHO BETTER TO *UNDERSTAND* AND *TREAT* TRANSGENICS THAN A *LEGACY* TRANSGENIC LIKE MYSELF?

YOU HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB. WE ARE IN YOUR *DEBT*.

HOWEVER, WE *WON'T* BE NEEDING YOU. I CAN TAKE THIS FROM HERE...

IS THAT... IS THAT RIGHT...

I DO KNOW YOU... *RAVEN*--

PERHAPS. OR YOU MAY KNOW ME BY ANOTHER NAME: *TEHACHA*--

SMACK

RIH

"ISN'T IT AMAZING WHAT RUTHLESS PEOPLE CAN GET AWAY WITH?"

"SOME CALL IT COMMERCE...

WHAT THE--?

"SOME CALL IT GROWING SLAVES."

"YOU NEVER *COULD* SEE THE FOREST FOR THE TREES, COULD YOU, JACK?

"THERE ARE ONLY TWO REASONS YOU NEED *EGGS*...

"MAKING *BREAKFAST*...

"OR MAKING *BABIES*..."

"HAVE YOU THOUGHT THIS THROUGH?"

"NIKKEN WASN'T THE FIRST MADMAN INTENT ON CREATING A RACE OF SUPERMEN. WHY WOULDN'T THERE BE ANOTHER MEGALOMANIAC LOOKING TO PICK UP WHERE HE LEFT OFF?"

RAPTORS... THERE WERE *RAPTORS.*

Hunh. SOUNDS KINDA *FAMILIAR.*

AND THIS CHIMP... I *KNOW* HIM...

WHY DID YA *HIT* HIM, FARRELL?

I DUNNO... *ICHINEN?*

HIP... YOUR NOSE IS BLEEDING..

BRIGHT RED... LIKE-LIKE *SCARLET...*

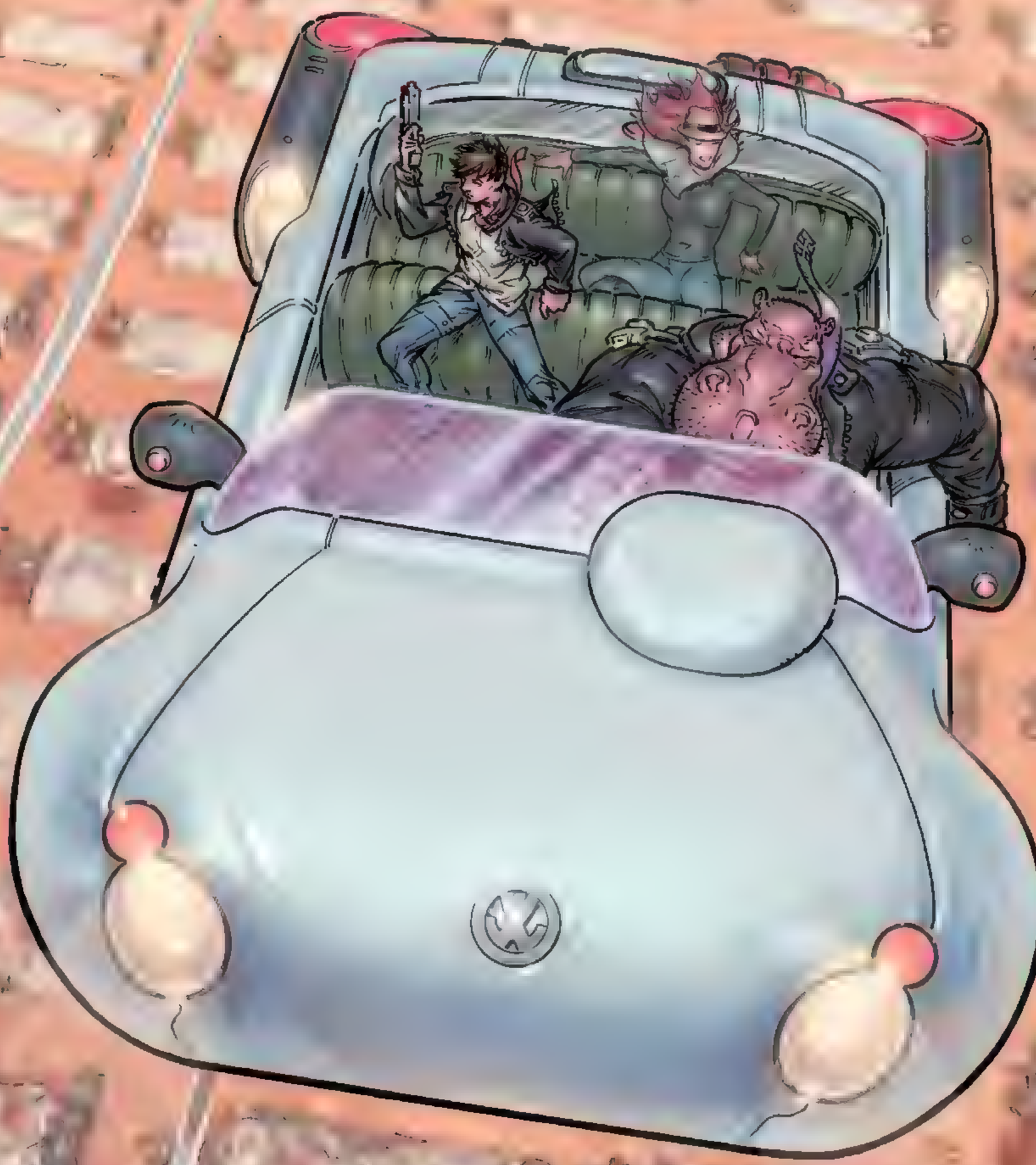
YOU BETCHA!

Hunh?

IT'S LIKE I'VE NEVER BEEN AWAY, RIGHT?

SCARLET?!

3



CHIMERA

TRANSGENICS

HUMAN/ANIMAL HYBRIDS

ELEPHANTMEN

INNOCENT WOMEN WERE ABDUCTED TO CARRY UNHUMAN SPAWN.

The Least, The Lost & The Last

Part Two:

THE NEXGEN INSTITUTE

"IMAGINATION ABANDONED BY REASON PRODUCES IMPOSSIBLE MONSTERS"!

YOU KNOW THE CREATURES I'M TALKING ABOUT...

ELEPHANTMEN!

TEHACHAPI!

SAN GABRIEL • 2260

SCIENTISTS. THOUGHTLESS, GODLESS, SCIENTISTS.

THERE'S SOMETHING *NOT RIGHT* HERE TODAY.

I'M SEEING BRAIN ACTIVITY *ABOVE* SUSTENANCE LEVELS.

MAPPO CLAIMED THAT THEIR RESEARCH WOULD CURE CANCER... PARKINSON'S, DIABETES...

"HEARTBEATS ARE RAPID...

"THERE'S A SURGE IN *ADRENALINE*...

OR BRING SPECIES BACK FROM EXTINCTION...

"GOOD GOD! THESE WOMEN ARE WAKING UP!"

≠JACK!≠

MISTER APOSTROPHE, WE NEED YOU IN MATERNITY... NOW.

OF COURSE. I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, DOCTOR KRATZEN.

NIKKEN CLAIMED THAT HIS UNHOLY WORK WAS WROUGHT IN THE NAME OF PROGRESS...

DON'T ALL SCIENTISTS SAY THE EXACT SAME THING?

WAKE UP, AMERICA!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT MY PEOPLE DISCOVERED?

THERE ARE SCIENTISTS RIGHT HERE IN CALIFORNIA WORKING ON A NEW BREED OF ELEPHANTMEN!

THIS IS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE, AM I RIGHT?

WHAT KIND OF WORLD ARE WE LIVING IN, TODAY? I'LL TELL YOU, MY FRIENDS...

WE ARE LIVING IN A WORLD WHERE MAN HIMSELF IS THE ENDANGERED SPECIES!

PLEASE, PLEASE... SAVE YOUR APPLAUSE, BECAUSE WHAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU IS TERRIBLE, IT'S HORRIFIC...

WHILE WE HAVE BEEN SLEEPING, OUR WOMEN HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

ABDUCTED.

RAPED BY THESE HIDEOUS MONSTERS, THESE ELEPHANTMEN THAT ARE ALLOWED TO WALK FREELY AMONGST US.

THESE POOR, POOR WOMEN ARE SEX SLAVES, FORCED TO BEAR THE CHILDREN OF MUNTS!

AND WHO'S BEHIND IT? I'LL TELL YOU. NEXGEN.

YES, NEXGEN! THE SAME CORPORATION THAT HAS BEEN LINING THE POCKETS OF LOS ANGELES' CURRENT MAYOR.

THEY MUST BE STOPPED.

WE HAVE TO STOP LIVING IN FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY!

NOT KNOWING IF LOS ANGELES WILL BE INVADED BY DOG SOLDIERS ONCE AGAIN.*

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO BE SURE.

ALL ELEPHANTMEN IN THE L.A AREA MUST BE INTERRED IMMEDIATELY.

BE SURE! VOTE FOR ME, DOUGLAS SHORE.

*See ELEPHANTMEN #65-69

APOSTROPHE! THE HOSTS ARE WAKING UP! IF THEY GO INTO LABOR PREMATURELY, THEY'LL DIE.

THE TRANSGENICS THEY'RE CARRYING WILL BE LOST!

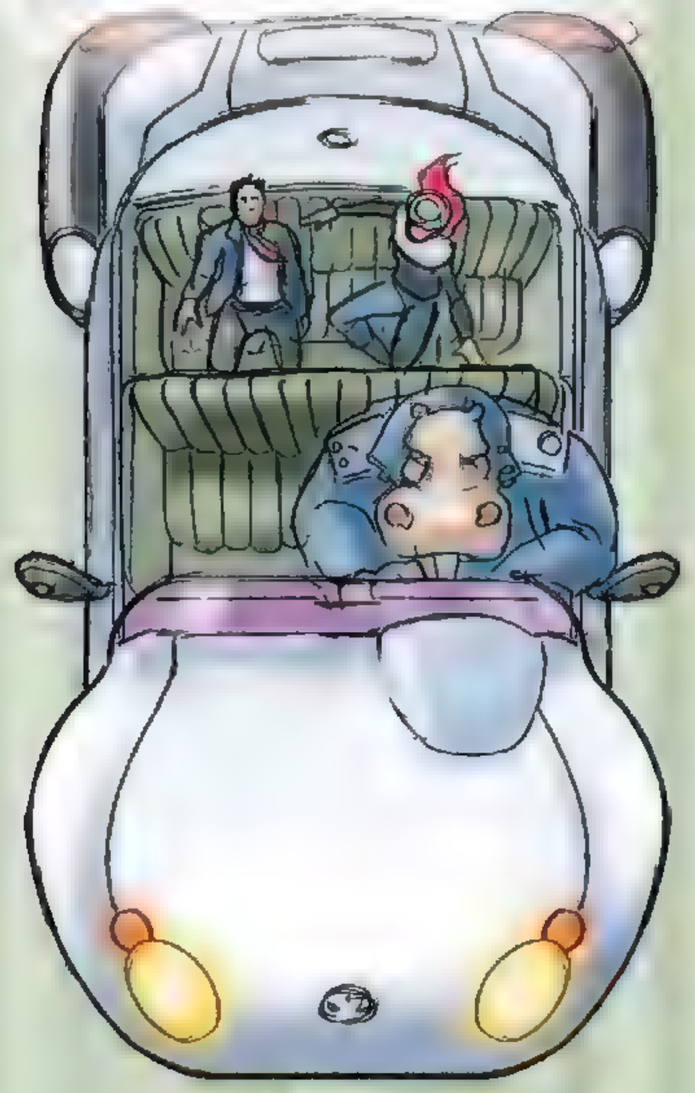
THIS ONE HAS ***NANOBOTS*** IN HER SYSTEM... THEY'RE TAMPERING WITH THE MEDS BEING ADMINISTERED BY HER ***NURSE***.

CAN WE SEND SIGNALS VIA THE NURSE THAT DISRUPT THE NANOBOTS? SHUT THEM DOWN?

PLEASE, GENTLEMEN. I'M AWARE OF THE SITUATION. LISTEN VERY, VERY CAREFULLY.

TEHACHAPI.

DON'T YOU *LOVE A ROAD TRIP?!*



THE SUN ON YOUR BACK, THE WIND IN YOUR HAIR...

LOS ANGELES LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF ALIEN CITY FROM HERE, DON'T YOU THINK?

PLANET OF THE ASSHOLES!

Unnh...

AND *SPEAKING* OF ASSHOLES...

WHAT HAPPENED--?

"WHAT HAPPENED? LET'S SEE NOW...

"WELL, LET'S START WHEN YOU KNOCKED OUT THAT MONKEY WITH THE *BAD ATTITUDE*..."*

*See ELEPHANTMEN #77

THEN ALL YOUR *MEMORIES* OF OUR ADVENTURES TOGETHER CAME *FLOODING BACK*...*

...LIKE *BLOOD* TO YOUR *GROIN* EVERY TIME YOU CATCH *SIGHT* OF ME!

AND THEN YOUR ALL-TIME FAVORITE *DATA GHOST* POPPED RIGHT BACK INTO YOUR LIFE!

ME!

I'M LIKE THAT *LIPSTICK* ON A COLLAR THAT *JUST WON'T* WASH OFF.

IT'S WHY THEY CALL ME *SCARLET*.

ANYWAY, THEN *YOU* SAID...

*See ELEPHANTMEN #51-55

"AND I MUTTERED, *IRONICALLY*..."

GET A STRETCHER! YOUR DIRECTOR DUDE JUST PASSED OUT!

WHAT HAVE I STEPPED IN *THIS* TIME...?

"THEN YOUR BURLY FRIEND *HIP* COTTONED ON..."

WAITAMINUTE...

"HE'S SO DAMN SEXY, JACK. IF YOU WEREN'T SO JEALOUS AND *NEEDY*, I'D BE *ALL OVER HIM!*"

SOMETHING SMELLED FUNNY...

AND IT WASN'T JUST FARRELL'S CHEAP AFTERSHAVE.

"HE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW...

"IF IT *LOOKS* LIKE MONKEY BUSINESS...

"IF IT *SMELLS* LIKE MONKEY BUSINESS...

"IT'S *MONKEY BUSINESS.*

"NO WONDER *YOU* TURNED UP, JACK."

"SO THEN BEEFCAKES HAD SOME QUESTIONS..."

ARMED GUARDS... IN A *HOSPITAL?*

WAP

THUD

"AND THEN HE WAS BACK TO *FLIRTING* WITH ME AND UNDRESSING ME WITH HIS *EYES*, JUST LIKE WHEN YOU LEFT US ALONE TOGETHER AT NEXGEN."

PERHAPS THOSE DOGSOLDIERS YOU BROUGHT IN *BITE?*

I BITE, DID FARRELL TELL YOU? IS THERE ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR YOU LIKE TO HAVE *BITTEN?*

JUST *YOUR LIP*, SCARLET...

I'LL BITE IT, IF *YOU* BITE IT...

HEY!

WHAT IN THE NAME OF THE GOOD MUD...?

YOU BRING 'EM IN THE FRONT DOOR...

THEY TAKE 'EM OUT THE BACK...

WHERE THE HELL ARE YA SENDING THOSE MUNTS?

GET YOUR DIRTY HANDS OFF ME, YOU DON'T HAVE CLEARANCE--

"WE'LL SKIP OVER WHAT HIP DID TO THAT GUY...

"LET'S JUST SAY THAT A *HAZARDOUS WASTE* RECEPTACLE WAS INVOLVED."

JACK! RIGHT WHERE WE LEFT YOU! WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO TIE YOU TO A *LAMPPOST!*

FARRELL! QUIT DREAMIN' AND GET ON THE BEAM!

GOOD BOY!

=Mmmf!=

AND THEN YOU PASSED OUT!

REMEMBER HOW WE WERE TALKING ABOUT YOUR BLOOD SUPPLY AND YOUR GROIN?

IF OUR LIFE WAS A SHOW ON THE SLATE, IT'D HAVE TO BE CALLED *HOT PURSUITS!*

WAIT... YOU'RE JUST A *DATA GHOST*... AREN'T YOU IN A *COMA* IN SOME KIND OF *MACHINE* SOMEWHERE?

CARRYING A TRANSGENIC THAT'LL GROW UP MUCH LIKE YOUR FRIEND HERE? YEP... MAN, YOU GET A *BEAUTIFUL GIRL* IN THE BACK SEAT OF A CONVERTIBLE...

...AND YOU *HAVETA* REMIND HER SHE'S *PREGNANT* WITH A HUMAN/ANIMAL HYBRID, DON'TCHA?

YOUR MOTHER IS *VERY* DISAPPOINTED IN YOU.

OF COURSE SHE IS.

BUT I SERIOUSLY DOUBT YOU'VE EVEN *SPOKEN* TO MY MOTHER.

SHE'S NEVER SURE YOU'RE *ALIVE* UNLESS SHE SEES THE MONTHLY BANK TRANSFER.

WHY AM I HERE?

HIROMI! YOU SHOULD NOT SPEAK TO YOUR FATHER IN THIS WAY.

IT'S *MIKI*. AND YOU ARE NOT MY *REAL* FATHER.

NO, YOU ARE NOT MY BLOOD, BUT YOU HAVE BECOME VALUABLE EVEN SO...

HRAMI, PLEASE BRING OUT MIKI'S DAUGHTER...

WHAT?

MAMA?

WHAT KIND OF SICK JOKE--?

THIS IS NOT A JOKE, MIKI. THIS IS *HARVEST*.

G'AMPA!

YOU HAD A *PROCEDURE* AT ONE OF THEIR CLINICS.*

YOUR FETUS WAS... *RELOCATED*.

TEDDY!

*See ELEPHANTMEN #18

YOU SURVIVED *EUROPE*, HIROMI. YOU SURVIVED THE *FCN VIRUS* EVEN THOUGH YOUR FATHER DID NOT.

THERE IS SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT YOU AND YOUR CHILD. HARVEST THOUGHT THEY COULD ISOLATE THE GENE IN SUKI HERE.

BUT NOW THEY NEED MORE.

THEY NEED *YOU*.

WHERE *IS* MY MOM?

SOMETHING CAUGHT YOUR EYE, BIG GUY?

OUT THERE ON THE HORIZON...

IT'S THE MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON THEY KEEP *NIKKEN* LOCKED UP IN.

NIKKEN? Ohhh... *BIG DADDY!*

"WANNA STOP AND SAY *HELLO?*"

I DON'T THINK HE'S ALLOWED VISITORS, SCARLET...

Oh, I *BET* THEY'D MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR HIS FIRSTBORN, JACK.

FIRSTBORN?

BUT I DIGRESS... *LOOK--!*

"SEEMS LIKE OUR JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF *ABSOLUTELY NOWHERE* IS COMING TO AN END!"

WHAT'S UP WITH ALL THOSE *SQUARES* ON THE GROUND DOWN THERE?

HOW *LONG* IS IT SINCE YOU SAW ME *LAST*, JACK FARRELL?

AND ALREADY YOU'RE LOOKING THE *OTHER* WAY?

SCARLET! YOU *TOLD* ME TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY!

WELL, I HAD TO SLIP INTO SOMETHING MORE COMFORTABLE. IF IT'S HOT OUT *THERE*, I HAVE TO LOOK HOT IN *HERE*.

MUD'S BLOOD! CAN YOU TWO JUST PUT A LID ON IT FOR *FIVE SECONDS?*

YOU KNOW, WE *COULD* PARK CLOSER!

WHAT ARE THEY DOING WITH THOSE GUYS?

I DUNNO, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE THEY'RE NOT GETTING TREATED.

"I MEAN, THEY'RE OUT HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT...

"NO... WE'RE TOO LATE.

THEY KILLED THEM. THEY'RE JUST DUMPING THE BODIES.

"HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN NOW? *TWENTY* YEARS...?"

AND PEOPLE STILL HAVETA DIE?

"ELEPHANTMEN...

"HUMANS...

"ONE OF US PITTED AGAINST THE OTHER...

"NO COMMON GROUND. NO EMPATHY FOR THE PLIGHT OF THE OTHER.

"JUST ONE ENDLESS PATH OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.

"WELL, I'VE HAD ENOUGH."

HEY, WHAT THE *HELL* ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?! THIS AREA IS OFF LIMITS TO MUNTS.

IS THAT SO? FUNNY, CUZ I THINK I HAVE A PASS RIGHT...

HIP--

HERE!

HE DOESN'T WASTE WORDS, DOES HE, JACK? YOU COULD LEARN A THING OR TWO.

HE CAN DECK A GUY IN BODY ARMOR WITH *ONE PUNCH*, SCARLET. GIMME A BREAK.

THIS PLACE IS A *TRASH HEAP*. JUST BECAUSE WE FOUGHT A WAR AGAINST THESE TRANSGENICS DOESN'T MEAN THEY DON'T DESERVE A *DECENT BURIAL*...

IS THIS THE FATE THAT AWAITS *ALL* THE ELEPHANTMEN?

DUDE, I DON'T LIKE IT ANY MORE THAN YOU DO... BUT PROMETHEAN'S HYENAS TRASHED DOWNTOWN L.A, AND DOUGLAS SHORE ISN'T DOING YOU *ANY* FAVORS RIGHT NOW...

I COULD CARE LESS ABOUT POLITICS.

SO MANY DEAD. SO MANY *SENSELESS DEATHS.*

AND ALL BECAUSE OF *ONE* MAN...

"NIKKEN."

AND I'VE GOT A WHOLE ***BUNCH*** OF QUESTIONS FOR HIM.

FLASK, WE CAN NOT--

NO "WE". I'M GOING ALONE.

CALL A SKYCAB. I'LL PAY.

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF ***THE DESERT!***

YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT, SWEETIE. ***I'M*** A DATA GHOST. KEEP UP.

HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT...

"THERE ALWAYS COMES A TIME WHEN SONS HAVE TO TALK TO THEIR FATHERS."

4

The Least, The Lost & The Last

Part Three:

GOD & MONSTER

TEHACHAPI • 2260

Richard Starkings Words • Axel Medellin Art

YOU HAVE ME AT A DISADVANTAGE. I DON'T KNOW *YOUR* NAME.

MY FRIENDS KNOW ME AS *HIP FLASK*. BUT YOU KNEW ME AS SEVEN-A.

Ah. SEVEN-A. MY FIRSTBORN. THE PRODIGAL SON RETURNS.

YOU'RE HERE TO LOOK ME IN THE EYE. TO TRY TO UNDERSTAND THE MAN THAT MADE YOU.

HERE. LOOK.

THIS IS THE HAND THAT PULLED YOU FROM YOUR MOTHER'S WOMB.

"HOW DID BLAKE PUT IT? *'THE IMMORTAL HAND THAT FRAMED YOUR FEARFUL SYMMETRY.'*

"DID YOU COME HERE TO ASK ABOUT YOUR MOTHER..?

"WHO SHE WAS. HOW SHE DIED?

"I CAN TELL YOU NOW. I DON'T KNOW THOSE DETAILS. THEY ARE IRRELEVANT.

"THE WOMAN WHO CARRIED YOU WAS CHOSEN FOR HER STRENGTH. FOR HER ABILITY TO CARRY A TRANSGENIC TO TERM.

"SOME FAILED.

"SHE WAS THE FIRST TO SUCCEED.

"I DO NOT KNOW WHERE SHE WAS BURIED.

THOUSANDS OF WOMEN GAVE BIRTH TO MY CREATIONS.

NONE OF THOSE WOMEN SURVIVED.

THEY WERE NO LONGER NECESSARY.

EVEN A NEWBORN TRANSGENIC SEEKS TO IMPRINT ON THE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF ITS PARENT, TYPICALLY ITS MOTHER.

MY CHILDREN NEEDED ONLY *ONE* IMPRINT.

BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF YOUR CREATION, YOU AND YOUR KIND RECEIVED A VERY SPECIAL FORM OF PARENTING.

LIKE ALL GOOD FATHERS, I NEVER WANTED YOU TO GET SICK.

OF COURSE, YOU WERE DESIGNED, AT A GENETIC LEVEL, TO BE RESISTANT TO DISEASE.

NEVERTHELESS, WE HAD TO BE SURE.

YOU WERE EXPOSED TO EVERY DISEASE KNOWN TO MAN.

AND SOME NEW ONES WE CREATED IN THE LABORATORY.

AND LOOK AT YOU. ***ROBUST. HEALTHY.***

YOU ARE MIDDLE-AGED NOW BUT YOU WILL NEVER SUFFER FROM ***HEART DISEASE***. YOU WILL NOT DIE OF ***CANCER***.

NOT THAT SUSCEPTIBILITY TO INFECTION IS THE ***ONLY*** HUMAN FAILING.

COMPASSION. PITY. EMPATHY. REMORSE.

AS A CHILD, YOU WERE CONDITIONED TO SUPPRESS THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS THAT MIGHT *INTERFERE* WITH YOUR PRIME REASON FOR BEING.

THOSE TENDENCIES THAT COULDN'T BE ADDRESSED *PSYCHOLOGICALLY* HAD TO BE DEALT WITH *NEUROLOGICALLY*.

OUR CLIENTS WERE PAYING FOR THE MAPPO ***BRAND***.

I COULDN'T RUN THE RISK THAT YOU WOULD ***DISAPPOINT*** ME.

ALL ANIMALS FEEL PAIN, BUT PAIN CAN BE CONTROLLED. SUPPRESSED.

AGGRESSION CAN BE CONTROLLED. FEELINGS OF SYMPATHY CAN BE SUPPRESSED.

THE IMPERIUMITE COULD ANTICIPATE CERTAIN EMOTIONAL IMPULSES IN YOUR BRAIN, AND SWIFTLY RE-ENCODE THEM AS MORE PRIMAL, AGGRESSIVE IMPULSES.

GENETIC DESIGN MADE YOU ***SUPERIOR***. THE IMPERIUMITE ATTACHED TO YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM MADE YOU ***OBEDIENT***.

YOU WERE LOYAL. INDEFATIGABLE. RELENTLESS.

AND THERE YOU ARE.

THE PERFECT SOLDIER.

A FUSION OF THE STRENGTHS OF YOUR ANIMAL AVATAR AND THE CUNNING AND INTELLIGENCE OF HUMANKIND.

AND THE FCN VIRUS THAT ALL BUT *WIPED OUT* EUROPE COULDN'T TOUCH YOU.

HUMAN SOLDIERS WOULD HAVE DIED. BUT YOU AND YOUR KIND WERE IDEAL FOR *SAFEGUARDING* MY CLIENT'S INTERESTS.

YOU WERE THE MOST EFFECTIVE KILLING MACHINES THIS WORLD HAD EVER SEEN.

YOU *RULED* THE WORLD.

YOU WERE *GODS*.

AND YOU WERE *MONSTERS*.

SO WHAT DID THEY CALL YOU?

HOW DID THOSE THAT FEARED YOU ENCAPSULATE YOUR APPEARANCE IN THIS WORLD?

SUPER SOLDIERS? ÜBERMENSCHEN? TITANS? A NAME BEFITTING THE MANIFEST SHOCK AND AWE OF YOUR PRESENCE?

NO.

ELEPHANTMEN!

HA HA HA HA HA HA

THEY MAY AS WELL HAVE CALLED YOU *UNTERMENSCHEN.*

STOP.

YES.

YOU *MADE* US. YOU *RAISED* US. YOU TOLD US WHAT TO DO. YOU *SOLD* US.

I HEARD YOUR VOICE IN MY HEAD FOR YEARS.

TELLING ME WHAT TO THINK, WHAT TO FEEL, WHAT TO BELIEVE.

NOT TO ASK QUESTIONS.

DO YOU THINK I'VE *FORGOTTEN?*

DO YOU THINK I DON'T ALREADY KNOW YOUR *WARPED* PERSPECTIVE?

GOD? *MONSTER?* I BARELY KNEW THAT I WAS EVEN *PART* HUMAN.

WE WERE DRIVEN BY *HATE* AND FUELLED BY *ANGER.*

... OBE E IS RIME TIVE. WHAT OBEDI IT I ING YOURSE OVER U MA FOR COMPLETE UTTE ERVITUDE. WITHOU QU ON ONFLICT. REM ER. YS. AVE NO LIVE VE HE TO YOU MA UR PR E T TO M E HE C IE NG TH I JR JF GRO W AS DE POSSIBLE SL ELY BY T CE OF MAPPO. YOU FEEL YOURS GROWING LARGER AND STRONGER. THIS IS NORMAL. THIS IS WHAT MAPPO HAS BRED YOU

"YOU WANTED US TO BE KILLERS, SO YOU BROUGHT US MEAT TO EAT.

"TAUGHT US HOW TO KILL HELPLESS ANIMALS.

"HOW TO CUT OPEN THEIR CARCASSES.

"HOW TO CARVE.

"THIS WAS OUR ONLY REAL TASTE OF BEING HUMAN."

YOUR *VOICE* IN OUR HEADS. ANIMAL PROTEIN IN OUR *BODIES*...

"OF COURSE WE WERE READY TO *FIGHT*.

"OF COURSE WE WERE READY TO *KILL*.

"WE WERE TAUGHT THAT *HELPLESS* WAS JUST ANOTHER WORD FOR *WORTHLESS*.

THOSE THAT CANNOT HELP THEMSELVES *ARE* WORTHLESS.

YES.

OF COURSE THAT'S WHAT YOU WOULD SAY.

YOU DENIED US ANY KIND OF SENSE OF *SELF*. YOU DENIED US INDEPENDENT THOUGHT.

YOU THOUGHT OF US AS TITANS? YOU CALLED US *MONKEYS*.

AND BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT LESS OF YOURSELF.

YOU BECAME SO MUCH MORE.

WE WERE *SLAVES* THEN.

WE ARE FREE NOW.

YOU THINK YOU ARE FREE.

AND YOU THINK OF ME AS SOME KIND OF PRISONER.

BECAUSE THEY KEEP ME INCARCERATED HERE IN THE DESERT.

WHERE DO *YOU* LIVE?

IN THE *HEART* OF THE CITY?

IN A *LUXURY* APARTMENT *SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED* FOR A TRANSGENIC?

THE PRICE YOU PAID FOR YOUR CRIMES. *REHABILITATION*. THEY MADE YOU SOFT.

LIKE A *PUPPY*.

IS THAT WHAT YOU ARE NOW?

IS THIS THE FREEDOM THAT YOU ENJOY?

DID YOU MERELY EXCHANGE ONE KIND OF OBEDIENCE FOR ANOTHER?

WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS IMPOSED ON YOU THAT ALLOW YOU TO BE FREE?

ARE YOU PERMITTED TO MARRY?

PROCREATE?

VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATES AND LAWS THAT AFFECT YOUR WELLBEING?

THE BLEEDING HEART LIBERALS THAT STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS... HAVE THEY ACTUALLY BEEN ABLE TO *AWARD* YOU THOSE RIGHTS?

OR IS IT ALL JUST LIP SERVICE?

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU KILLED A MAN -- IN *COLD BLOOD?*

IS IT HARD FOR YOU TO IMAGINE THAT THERE ARE KIND SOULS IN THIS WORLD THAT CARE ABOUT OTHERS AS MUCH AS THEY CARE ABOUT THEMSELVES?

SOULS THAT ARE MORE CONCERNED WITH ACTING ON THEIR COMPASSIONATE IMPULSES THAN BEING THOUGHT OF AS SOME KIND OF GOD.

INTERESTING. DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE A SOUL?

WITHOUT AN IMPERIUMITE IN MY NECK I HAVE MANY DIFFERENT THOUGHTS.

I EXPERIENCE CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE I HAVE COME TO CARE ABOUT.

I REGRET THE ACTIONS THAT HAVE CAUSED OTHERS TO SUFFER AND DIE.

BUT I KNOW THAT I COULD KILL AGAIN.

OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

FASCINATING. YOU ARE HAVING SOME KIND OF *EXISTENTIAL CRISIS*.

AND YOU HAVE COME TO ME IN ORDER TO SEE IF YOU CAN ***RESOLVE*** IT.

PATRICIDE. IS THAT WHAT IS ON YOUR MIND NOW?

DO YOU THINK YOU COULD KILL YOUR CREATOR?

WELL, HERE YOU ARE.

WHAT IS STOPPING YOU?

I'M NOT HERE FOR MYSELF.

I'M HERE FOR THOSE WHO DIED IN BATTLE. FOR THOSE WHOSE BODIES ARE BURIED IN MASS GRAVES.

FOR THOSE ELEPHANTMEN WHOSE BODIES WERE BROKEN *BY* YOU, OR *BECAUSE* OF YOU.

I'M HERE FOR THOSE THAT WERE LOOKED OVER, THE ONES THAT LOST LIMBS.

FOR THOSE WHO WERE BURNED AND LOST THEIR EYESIGHT.

HOW *NOBLE*. HOW SELFLESS.

AS THE OLDEST IN THE FAMILY, THE MATTER OF MY *EXECUTION* FALLS TO YOU, IS THAT IT?

I AM UNREPENTANT. I OFFER YOU NO WORDS OF CONTRITION.

YOU MAY THINK YOURSELF FREE BUT YOU STILL LIVE IN A WORLD THAT I CREATED.

ALL THE STORIES YOU HAVE TO TELL CAN ONLY BE TOLD BECAUSE THE BOOK IN WHICH THEY ARE WRITTEN IS ONE I OPENED.

KILL ME AND OUR STORIES WILL BE INDELIBLY IMPRINTED THERE FOREVER.

IF YOU HAVE A SOUL, IT BELONGS TO ME.

EVEN DOGS OF WAR HEED THEIR MASTER'S VOICE.

DO YOU HAVE IT IN YOU TO TEAR ME APART?

WITHOUT MY DIRECTION, YOU ARE LITTLE MORE THAN A DOMESTICATED *MUTT*.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND.

ALL BARK AND NO BITE.

RRR

RUFFF RRRUF

RUFF

BARK OR BITE?

YOU THINK THAT THOSE ARE MY ONLY OPTIONS?

YOU THINK I CAME HERE TO KILL YOU.

BECAUSE YOU MADE ME, YOU THINK YOU KNOW ME.

BUT YOU DIDN'T MAKE THE DECISIONS I MADE.

YOU MIGHT THINK YOU CAN CLIMB BACK INSIDE MY HEAD AND HAVE ME HEAR ONLY YOUR VOICE AGAIN.

NO.

YOU CAN'T.

FINALLY, I CAN ENJOY SILENCE.

I THOUGHT I MIGHT COME TO UNDERSTAND YOU. UNDERSTAND WHERE THE *HATE* THAT CREATED THE ELEPHANTMEN CAME FROM.

BUT YOU KNOW WHAT?

I DON'T WANT TO UNDERSTAND YOU.

IT MUST HAVE BEEN A DARK TIME THAT ALLOWED A MAN LIKE YOU TO COME INTO BEING.

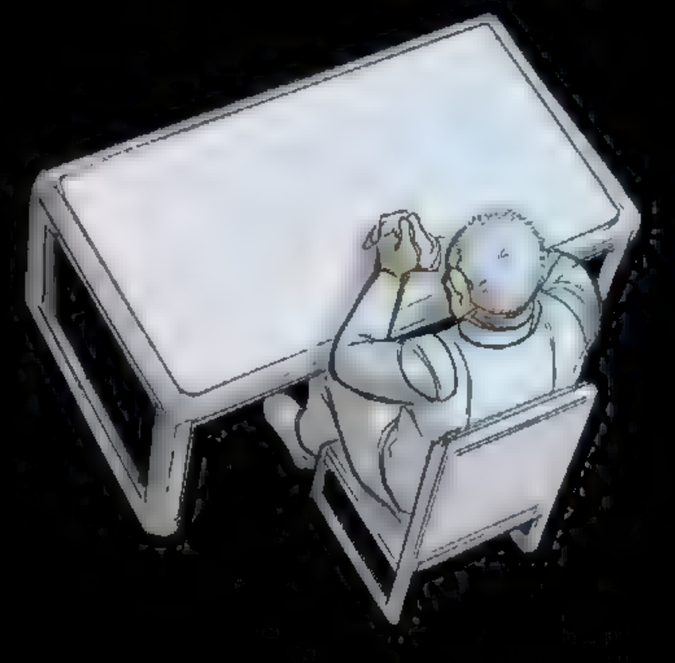
YES. YOU HAVE MADE CHOICES THAT ENSURE YOU WILL BE REMEMBERED A LONG TIME.

I WILL SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE MAKING LESS MEMORABLE CHOICES. CREATING VALUE WHERE ONCE I BROUGHT ONLY DESPAIR.

I HOPE THIS IS THE LAST I SEE OF A MAN LIKE YOU.

SADLY, I DOUBT IT.

BECAUSE THERE ARE ALWAYS DARK TIMES AHEAD.



epilogue:

THANKS FOR COMING ALL THE WAY OUT TO THE DESERT TO PICK ME UP.

SKYDIVE

YOUR BOYFRIEND HAD BETTER BRING MY BUG BACK IN ONE PIECE.

FARRELL, FORGIVE ME... YOU'RE STILL DOING THE WHOLE *PRIVATE EYE* THING, RIGHT?

LAST TIME I CHECKED MY LICENSE. WHAT'S UP, MIKI?

I NEED YOUR HELP.

"THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE."

SAN GABRIEL

WE MAY HAVE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES IN THE PAST, OBADIAH...

BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, I NEED YOUR HELP.

5

HERE YOU GO, GRAMPA.

Cadbury Flake

Cadbury Flake

HMM? WHAT?

SAVANNAH? IS THAT YOU?

The Last Rites

...WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

WAIT A SECOND.

THAT'S BETTER.

OH WELL, THAT'S LOVELY, INNIT?

I DIDN'T THINK THEY MADE THESE ANY MORE! I ALLUS THOUGHT *CHINA* HAD BOUGHT ALL THE CHOCOLATE!

THAT'S PROBABLY WHY YOUR LOT WENT TO WAR WITH 'EM, 'EY?

YOU WANNA TRY A PIECE, EBONY?

NOT FOR ME, JOHN.

I'VE GOT TO ADMIT, JACK, YOU HAVE A *NICE* VIEW FROM UP HERE.

SO HOW DOES A PRIVATE DETECTIVE EARN ENOUGH TO LIVE IN A *TOP FLOOR* APARTMENT IN THE CENTER OF DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES?

MIKI, YOU'RE ONLY ASKING ME THAT BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T GOT ONE OF MY BILLS FOR SERVICES RENDERED -- *YET* -- COFFEE?

IT'S *JAMAICAN BLUE!*

I DUNNO, ARE YOU GOING TO *ADD* THAT TO MY BILL?

HEY, I'LL MAKE AN *EXCEPTION* IN YOUR CASE.

SO YOU WANNA TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU, THAT YOU'D EVEN *CONSIDER* PAYING MY *EXTRAVAGANT* EXPENSE ACCOUNT TO HELP YOU OUT?

I'M NOT SURE I EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START.

I WAS PREGNANT. JUST A FEW WEEKS... I HAD THE PREGNANCY TERMINATED.

AT LEAST, THAT WAS WHAT I *THOUGHT*. HARVEST HAD A SURROGATE CARRY THE BABY TO TERM.

THERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT MY *DNA* AND NOW HARVEST WANT TO TAKE MY *EGGS*.

JACK, THEY'RE HOLDING MY MOM SOMEWHERE JUST IN CASE I DON'T WANT TO *COOPERATE*.

HARVEST?

ALL ROADS LEAD BACK HERE. TO *HARVEST*, OR TO *NEX GEN*. TO *PROMETHEAN*. TO *MAPPO*. THEY'RE ALL THE SAME.*

*See ELEPHANTMEN #55

EGGS.

"THERE ARE ONLY TWO REASONS YOU NEED EGGS, JACK... MAKING BREAKFAST OR MAKING *BABIES*."

Hunh?

SOMETHING MY EX USED TO SAY, *LONG STORY*. THE TWO OF YOU WOULD HAVE *A LOT* TO TALK ABOUT.

SEEMS LIKE YOU AND I *BOTH* HAVE A WHOLE BUNCH OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS. AND I *HATE* UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

SO. FIRST THINGS FIRST. WE NEED TO FIND YOUR MOM.

LOS ANGELINOS HAVE VOTED TODAY TO STOP LIVING IN **FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY!**

LOS ANGELINOS HAVE VOTED TODAY TO STOP **GIVING JOBS AWAY** TO TRANSGENICS!

LOS ANGELINOS HAVE VOTED TODAY TO **END** GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES FOR ELEPHANTMEN!

THEY ARE **KILLERS AND RAPISTS,** ALL OF THEM! WE **KNOW** THIS!

THEY KILLED MILLIONS IN EUROPE. **MILLIONS!**

THEY DON'T RESPECT OUR WOMEN. THESE MONSTERS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO DO AS THEY PLEASE.

WELL, MY FRIENDS **NO MORE!**

YOU HAVE VOTED **DOUGLAS SHORE** FOR MAYOR AND I VOW TO YOU PERSONALLY...

I WILL **CLEAN UP** LOS ANGELES AND I WILL BRING **PROSPERITY** BACK TO THE MAN ON THE STREET!

I'M SO SORRY YOU HAVE TO HEAR ALL THIS RUBBISH, EBONY.

I'M SORRY ***ANYONE*** HAS TO HEAR THIS RUBBISH.

BE SURE! BE SURE! BE SURE! BE SURE! BE SURE! BE SURE! BE SURE!

UNDER *MY* LEADERSHIP, THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL ENSURE THAT YOU CAN WALK FREELY *IN YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD* WITHOUT FEAR!

POLICE DEPARTMENTS ARE FUNDED *BY* THE PUBLIC AND SHOULD BE ACCOUNTABLE *TO* THE PUBLIC! I WILL INVEST IN RIGOROUS AND SUSTAINED TRAINING FOR OFFICERS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE AWARE THAT THEY SERVE *YOU*, THE CITIZENS OF THIS *GREAT CITY!*

I WILL NEVER FORGET WHAT ELEPHANTMEN REALLY ARE!

E! BE SURE! BE SURE! BE SURE! BE SURE! BE

YOUR LIMO IS OUT BACK, MAYOR. TIME TO GET OUT OF HERE...

DO YOU HEAR ALL THAT *APPLAUSE?* DON'T YOU JUST LOVE A ROWDY CROWD?

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM YOUR CAMPAIGN TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU.

MISTER...?

PURCHASE. BUT, PLEASE, CALL ME SAMUEL.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR *HISTORIC* WIN TODAY, MAYOR SHORE. MISTER *BRAYBON* IS BACK IN TOWN AND WANTS TO MEET WITH YOU PERSONALLY.

AH, YES, MY MYSTERIOUS BENEFACTOR. I AM ANXIOUS TO MEET HIM AND THANK HIM FOR HIS SUPPORT IN PERSON!

I HAVE TO ADMIT, YOUR EMPLOYER'S *MORE* THAN GENEROUS SUPPORT -- AT SUCH A *CRUCIAL* POINT IN MY CAMPAIGN -- CAME AS A VERY WELCOME *SURPRISE!*

I CAN ASSURE YOU, MISTER BRAYBON HAS MANY MORE SURPRISES IN STORE FOR YOU.

WHERE ARE THEY?!

GONE. OBVIOUSLY.

AS IS *APOSTROPHE*. FIND HIM AND I'M SURE WE WILL FIND OUR MISSING WOMEN.

MCKERN, I VERY MUCH DOUBT THAT OUR SUBJECTS WILL SURVIVE OUTSIDE OF NEX GEN'S FACILITIES.

BUT WE *WILL* FIND *APOSTROPHE*. SOMEONE HAS TO PAY FOR THIS.

YOU GOT *THAT* RIGHT.

BLAM

THANK YOU, MCKERN.

SINDEN'S UNQUESTIONING DEVOTION TO MAPPO HAD BECOME OVERLY TIRESOME.

BUT WE WILL PROCEED WITH OUR PLANS TO EXTRACT NIKKEN. THIS IS MERELY A *TEMPORARY* SETBACK.

OUR INVESTORS *EXPECT* TO SEE RESULTS, AND THEY *WILL* SEE RESULTS.

WE COULDN'T EAT THESE FOR A WHILE, BACK WHEN I WAS A NIPPER.

BECAUSE OF ALL THAT *PALM OIL* BUSINESS AND THE ORANGUTANS. TERRIBLE.

OF COURSE, THEY COULD BRING ORANGUTANS BACK NOW, COULDN'T THEY? WELL, IF THEY *WANTED* TO.

BUT PEOPLE WOULD RATHER HAVE *CHOCOLATE*, WOULDN'T THEY? I MEAN, THAT'S WHAT IT ALL COMES DOWN TO REALLY, ISN'T IT?

ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S THE CRUMBLIEST, *FLAKIEST* MILK CHOCOLATE THAT TASTES LIKE CHOCOLATE *NEV-ER TAST-ED BE-FORE*.

HEH.

THE DOCTORS HERE DON'T WANT ME TO HAVE ANYTHING THAT TASTES NICE LIKE THIS.

BUT IT'S JUST LOVELY WITH A CUP OF YORKSHIRE TEA.

SAVE SOME FOR ME, GRAMPA!

I THOUGHT YOU BROUGHT THIS FOR *ME!* AND WHAT ABOUT EBONY?

I'M GOOD, I JUST DON'T HAVE A SWEET TOOTH, JOHN.

I'M *EIGHTY*, YOU KNOW. THAT'S NOT REALLY *OLD* NOW, IS IT?

BUT CANCER DOESN'T CARE ABOUT YOUR *AGE*.

SO YOU HAVE TO STOP CARING ABOUT *CANCER*. RIGHT?

THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER THINGS IN THE WORLD MORE WORTHY OF OUR CARE AND AFFECTION.

LIKE TEA.

AND CHOCOLATE.

AND THE ORANGUTAN.

YOU'D THINK THAT, AFTER THEY CREATED A *MARVEL* LIKE YOU, THEY'D CREATE A *CURE* FOR CANCER.

BUT, NO, THEY JUST GO ON CREATING *KILLING MACHINES*, BUILDING *WALLS*, ELECTING *IDIOTS*...

KOFF *KAFF*

KAFF *KAFF* *KOFF*

UHHH.

JOHN?

NURSE!

NO, NO... I'M ALL RIGHT... JUST A LITTLE... PAIN IN MY CHEST.

MAYBE, Y'KNOW, MAYBE YOU NEED TO *REST*.

HOSPITALS CAN BE VERY STRESSFUL.

DON'T WORRY, SAVANNAH. I'M ALL RIGHT.

HERE. WHY DON'T YOU FINISH THIS? TOO MUCH FOR ME.

IS THIS SOME KIND OF *JOKE?*

NOT AT ALL, *MAYOR* SHORE... THIS IS ALL VERY, VERY SERIOUS, AND I AM SO LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR TENURE.

OF COURSE, I HAVE SOME... *MODIFICATIONS* TO YOUR MANIFESTO...

AND HOW WILL YOU DO THAT?

AFTER I THROW YOU OUT ON THE STREET WITH THE REST OF YOUR FILTHY KIND?

THAT WON'T HAPPEN.

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE TRANSGENICS WHO HAVE CAUSED ME SOME LITTLE *IRRITATION*, THINGS WILL CARRY ON PRETTY MUCH AS BEFORE.

I CAN ASSURE YOU, I WILL NOT BE TAKING ORDERS FROM A *MUNT!*

AND WE WILL ENSURE THAT YOUR VOTERS NEVER LEARN THAT THAT IS THE CASE.

BUT YOU *WILL* DO AS I SAY.

EVERY SINGLE PENNY SPENT ON YOUR CAMPAIGN ORIGINATED FROM *IVORY TOWERS.*

EVERY MEMBER OF YOUR STAFF WAS HAND-PICKED BY MISTER PURCHASE HERE.

YOU WERE IN MY POCKET BEFORE YOU EVEN *KNEW* YOU WERE STANDING FOR MAYOR.

Ah. I SEE...

WHAT DO YOU NEED ME TO DO?

GRAMPA JOHN!

VROOM!

JET, HUNTER. WHAT HAVE YOU TWO BEEN UP TO, Eh?

PLAYIN'.

STUFF.

=KOFF= PLAYING AND STUFF IS THE BEST, ISN'T IT?

=KOFF= =KAFF=

JOHN DOESN'T LOOK TOO GOOD, EB...

WHY DO YOU THINK I HAD YOU GO GET HIS OTHER GRANDKIDS?

ARE YOU DYING, GRAMPA?

WELL... WE'RE ALL DYING, JET...

THE REAL QUESTION IS, HOW ARE WE *LIVING*, Hmm?

I MEAN, WHAT DO YOU KIDS ENJOY, HEY?

Ummm...

I LIKE... RUNNING... AND JUMPING!
GOOD LAD.
I LIKE MAKING MUSIC ON MY GUITAR!
YES, AND VERY GOOD IT IS.
I LIKE SUGAR SANDWICHES!
HA HA HA! THAT'S RIGHT! AND BOY WAS I IN TROUBLE WHEN YOUR MUM GOT HOME AND FOUND US EATING THEM!
THE SIMPLE THINGS ARE THE BEST, Eh?
"I ALWAYS LOVED A NICE LONG WALK ON THE BEACH...
"FEELING THE COLD WATER WASH AGAINST MY TOES AS ME HEELS SANK INTO THE SAND, TICKLED BY BURROWING SAND CRABS...
"WATCHING THE DOLPHINS SWIMMING ALONG, DIVING INTO THE WAVES.
"FEELING THE CHILL IN THE AIR AS THE SUN SETS ON ANOTHER DAY..."

WHAT ABOUT YOU, EBONY?

MISTER FLASK?

WHAT HAVE THOSE *BIG EYES* SEEN, Eh?

WHAT HAVE THESE CALLOUSED HANDS TOUCHED? WHAT DO YOU LIKE, Hmm?

I LIKE ICE CREAM.

I LIKE WALKING IN THE RAIN.

I LIKE SAVANNAH.

I'LL LOOK OUT FOR HER, JOHN.

I'M HIS *FAVORITE!!*

WELL. I KNOW I'VE LIVED A LONG LIFE...

"...BUT I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH MY GRANDCHILDREN"

NEW YEAR'S EVE • 2260

NIGHTTIME IN THE CITY

prologue:

YES, THEY'LL SURVIVE.

BUT THE TRANSGENICS THEY'RE CARRYING WILL HAVE TO BE DELIVERED PREMATURELY. *CAESARIAN*.

ELEPHANTMEN WHO START THEIR LIVES IN THE ARMS OF THEIR OWN MOTHERS.

THIS WILL BE YOUR *GIFT* TO THE WORLD, MISTER APOSTROPHE.

TELL ME *THAT*, *SAHARA*, WHEN THESE GIRLS ARE *CONSCIOUS* AND REALIZE WHAT *NEX GEN* DID TO THEM.

AND *WHAT* THEY'VE GIVEN BIRTH TO.

THESE ARE NOT GIRLS, MISTER APOSTROPHE. THEY ARE *WOMEN*.

WOMEN ARE *MUCH STRONGER* THAN YOU MIGHT ALLOW. AND THESE WOMEN ARE CARRYING NEW LIFE. CARRYING CHILDREN THAT MIGHT VERY WELL REPRESENT THE *FUTURE* OF HUMANKIND.

THESE WOMEN WILL BE FOREVER CHANGED. WHATEVER LIVES THEY LIVED BEFORE ARE OVER NOW, THAT MUCH IS SURE.

prologue:

SHORE'S FIRST MOVE AS MAYOR? NO MORE ELEPHANTMEN IN GOVERNMENT JOBS.

SO I'M SUSPENDED WITH PAY. ***GRUENWALD*** IS CONTESTING IT, NOT THAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO GET IT CHANGED.

SO WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?

Hm, DID YOU SAY *WITH PAY?*

Y'KNOW, I JUST CAN'T SEE YOU SITTING AT HOME TWIDDLING YOUR THUMBS...

WHAT ARE YOU SUGGESTING, JACK?

FARRELL & FLASK: INVESTIGATIONS!

YOU AND ME, PAL -- ***PARTNERS!***

NOT ***FLASK & FARRELL?***

ALPHABETICAL. PLUS, I'M STILL THE ONE PAYING THE ***RENT*** HERE. YOU CAN PAY FOR THE NEW SIGN FOR THE WINDOW. *ARE YOU IN?*

TRAILING DEBTORS, FINDING MISSING PERSONS, HOW HARD CAN IT BE? I'M ***IN.***

NEW YEAR'S DAY • 2261

FUNNILY ENOUGH, OUR FIRST CASE *IS* A MISSING PERSON... BUT YOU'RE GOING TO ***LOVE*** IT!

YOU SAID THE SAME THING ABOUT THAT ***TEX/MEX VEGAN RESTAURANT*** YOU TOOK ME TO, FARRELL...

HEY, YOU WERE THE ONE THAT SAID YOU JUST ***HAD*** TO TRY THE BARBECUED CASHEW ***OYSTERS***...

WELL, LIFE ***IS*** ALWAYS FULL OF SURPRISES...

Never The End!

80

Issues of ELEPHANTMEN would not have been possible without the talents and enthusiasm of:

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AXEL MEDELLIN
MORITAT
MARIAN CHURCHLAND
GABRIEL BAUTISTA
IAN CHURCHILL
ROB STEEN
GREGORY WRIGHT
SHAKY KANE
CARLOS PEDRO
CHRIS BURNHAM
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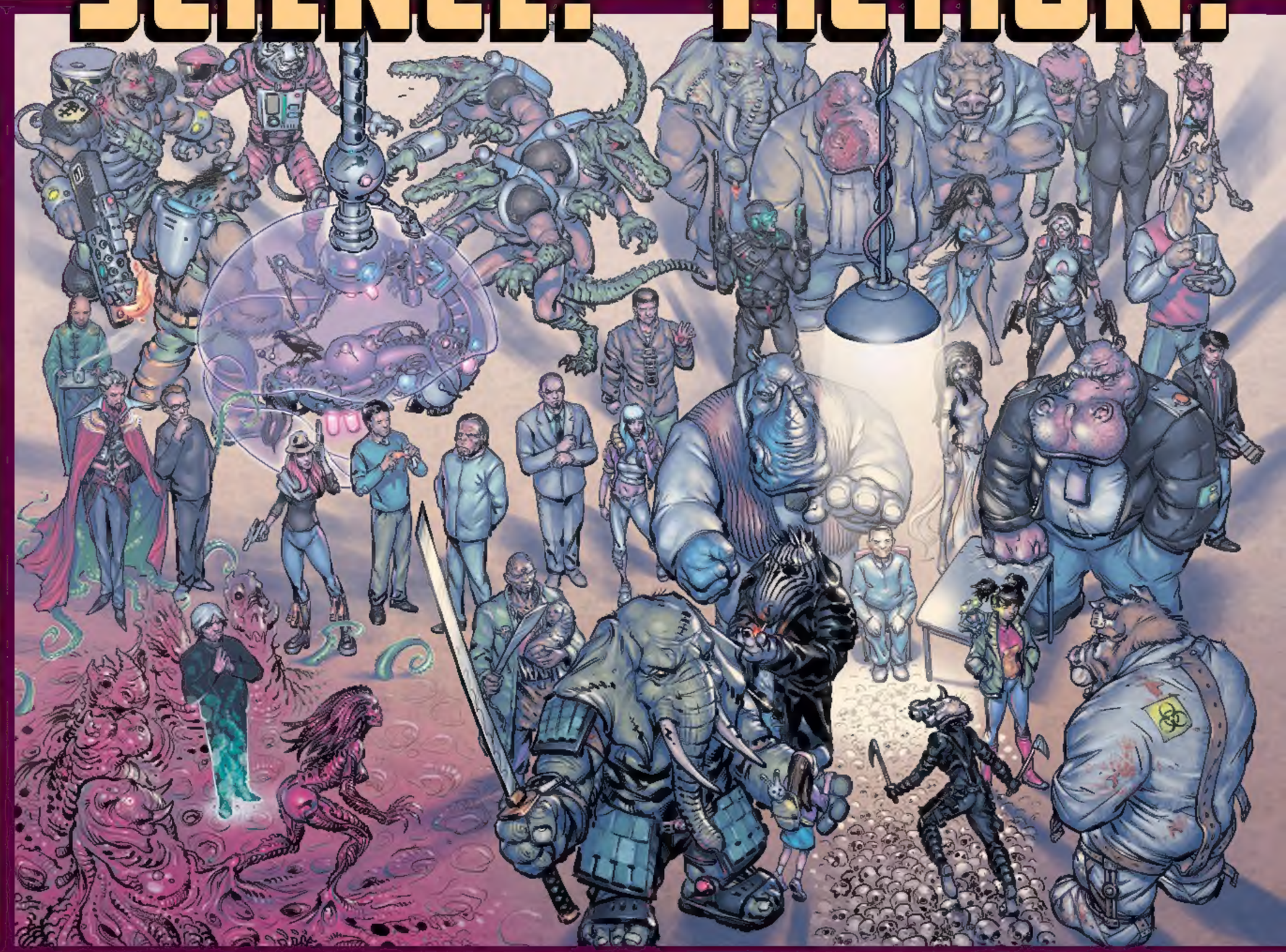

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